



**BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON**

# REPORT

(ABRIDGED)

ON THE

**HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH**

FOR

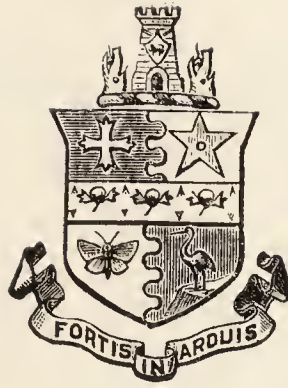
**THE YEAR 1940**

(JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st)

**S. T. BEGGS, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health. Medical  
Officer to the Education Committee.  
Medical Officer to Maternity and Child  
Welfare Service.





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## P R E F A C E .

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THE development in Public Health during the past twenty years is noteworthy. In legislation, we find numerous Acts and Orders being put into force, e.g. :—

The Blind Persons' Act, 1920 ; Dangerous Drugs Act, 1920, 1932 ; Public Health (Tuberculosis) Act, 1921 ; Education Act, 1921, (Local Authorities) 1931, 1936 ; Housing Acts, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1930, 1935 ; Milk and Dairies Amendment Act, 1922 ; Diseases of Animals Act, 1922, 1927, 1935, 1937 ; Town Planning Act, 1925 ; Public Health Act, 1925, 1936 ; Baths and Washhouses Act, 1925 ; Births and Deaths Regulations Act, 1926, 1929 ; Midwives Act, 1926, 1936 ; Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1928 ; Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927 ; Mental Deficiency Act, 1927 ; Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, 1938 ; Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, 1934, 1936 ; Artificial Cream Act, 1929 ; Reservoirs (Safety Provisions) Act, 1930 ; Poor Law Act, 1930 ; Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 ; Milk Act, 1936, (Amend.) 1937, (Ext. and Amendment) 1938 ; Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation) Act, 1937 ; Physical Training and Recreation Act, 1937 ; Factories Act, 1937 ; Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938 ; Cancer Act (1939), and numerous Orders.

Local advancement is in evidence in the building of new schools and of a modern Health Centre ; feeding of children, extension in medical inspection and clinic facilities for children of all ages ; provision for sending children to the seaside ; Health teaching and improved hygiene in the schools ; Extension of the Maternity and Child Welfare services in the formation of an Ante-natal Clinic and

increase in the number of sessions of the Child Welfare Clinics ; provision of Sunlight, Dental and Orthopædic treatment ; Paddling Pool for pre-school children ; Health Education for the people by Health Weeks and the formation of the Personal Health Association ; the installation of Hypochlorite Plant ; the opening of New Public Baths ; development of open spaces ; the building of 3,447 new houses ; the erection of an up-to-date Salvage Plant ; demolition of unfit houses. A marked reduction in the Infantile Mortality rate, Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis incidence, increased growth of the children and prolongation of life have resulted. In fact, there exists to-day a much improved hygienic and sanitary environment and a healthier town.

I wish to pay a special tribute to all my colleagues who have so whole-heartedly collaborated with me during these years, and especially to each member of my staff, to whom I am indebted for making it possible for me to carry through many onerous and difficult problems. It has been their skill and devotion to duty which, under my direction, have made the Health Services in Middleton one of the most efficient.

S. T. BEGGS,

*Medical Officer of Health,*

1921—1941.

## ABRIDGED REPORT.

## SECTION I.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres : 5,170.19.

Population—Census, 1931 : 29,188.

Registrar-General's estimate of :—

Population, mid-1940 : 29,860.

Number of inhabited houses :—

(a) Census, 1931 ... .. 7,821

(b) End of 1940, according to rate books 10,244 approx.

Rateable value, £157,510.

Sum represented by a penny rate : £602, estimated.

Social conditions : As previously reported.

Chief industries as before. The extent of unemployment shows the general improvement of the country.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## STATISTICS.

Vital Statistics, 1940. Total. Males. Females. Birth Rate.  
(Calculated locally).

Live Births	{	Legitimate	423	225	198	{	14.9
		Illegitimate	23	9	14		
		Total	...	446	234		
							Rate per 1,000 Total Births.
Stillbirths	...	...	17	7	10	38	
							Crude Death Rate
Deaths ...	...	...	420	199	221	14.1	

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

From Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—
From other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	3
Death-rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	6.48

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	56
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	56
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	43
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	36
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Coughs (all ages)	...	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	4

#### COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	1938	1939	1940
Marriages	210	237	309
Births :			
Legitimate	389	442	423
Illegitimate	13	13	23
Deaths	370	407	420
Birth Rate	13.6	15.2	14.9
Death Rate	12.5	13.6	14.1
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	59	46	56
Diarrhoea Death Rate	0.03	0.00	0.13
Epidemic Death Rate	0.23	0.10	0.00
Phthisis Death Rate	0.40	0.30	0.30
Cancer Death Rate...	1.96	1.77	1.27

No unusual mortality has been noted during the year. The causes of sickness and invalidity have been average. Conditions of occupation and environment are not specially prejudicial to health. There is no evidence that unemployment has had a deteriorating effect on children or adults,



## SECTION II.

The General Provision of Health Services remains as before in regard to Laboratory and Ambulance facilities, Nursing in the Home, Clinic and Hospital arrangements.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Service is described in Section 7 of this Report.

The number of Insured persons under the National Health Insurance Medical Service is 16,760.

There is no change in the Legislations in force. *Vide* Year Book.

The V.D. Service is administered by the County Council. There are no V.D. Clinics in Middleton. Particulars can be obtained at the Health Office.

Health Education is propagated by Leaflets and Posters ; by the Health Visitors in the homes and at the clinics as far as war conditions allow.

Particular attention is given to the prevention of Verminous Conditions and the spread of Infection, especially in the Air Raid Shelters.

## SECTION III.

### SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

#### Water Supply.

As detailed in previous reports.

One Chemical and 12 Bacteriological Analyses—satisfactory.

Supply, piped, is satisfactory. No form of contamination during year. No plumbo-solvent action.

Particular attention is given to the supervision of the supply in accordance with Circulars issued by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Home Security.

Chlorination was advocated by me in July, 1940.

#### Mains laid in the Middleton District during 1940.

Situation.	Size in inches.	Length in yards.
Meadow Road ... ..	4	77
Penrhyn and Orme Avenue ... ..	4	101
Three Pits Lane ... ..	4	67
Orme Avenue ... ..	4	40
Ruthin Avenue ... ..	4	108
Rhos Avenue ... ..	4	48

The number of houses supplied is 10,247.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

Extensions during year :—

36 in. diameter pipes.	Sewer.	35 yards.
18 in.           ,,       ,,	,,	20   ,,
9 in.           ,,       ,,	,,	21   ,,

No further developments.

## Rivers and Streams.

No major developments during the year.

## Closet Accommodation.

Privy middens :—No. of middens, 63 ; closets attached to these middens, 63 ; pail closets, 188 ; houses on water carriage system, 8,888 ; fresh water closets, 5,985 ; waste water closets, 2,903.

5 conversions were carried out.

Houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed ashpits, 23.

## Public Cleansing.

Carried out by Sanitary Inspector's Staff.

### (a) Storage.

No. of Brick Ashpits.	No. of Wall Ashbins.	No. of Movable Ashbins.
1,402	354	6,498

### (b) Removal.

The cost of refuse removal during the financial year was £3,829 5s. 0d.

### (c) Disposal—Salvage.

The income from salvaged materials during the period was £1,738 17s. 3d.

## Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited, 2,644. Defects or nuisances discovered, 594 ; abated, 520 ; notices served—Informal, 390 ; Statutory, 4.

			Notices Served.			Proceed- ings taken
			Defects found	Informal	Statutory	
Houses ...	...	...	207	104	—	98
Closets ...	...	...	120	74	—	74
Ashpits	...	...	144	85	4	83
House-drains	...	...	51	62	—	62
Waste pipes and Sinks...			22	22	—	20
Yards and Passages	...		11	10	—	9
Accumulations...	...		5	5	—	5
Other Nuisances	...		34	28	—	27
Common Lodging Houses			—	—	—	—
Keeping of Animals	...		—	—	—	—

Number of Defects reported to Medical Officer of Health, 45.

## Shops and Offices.

No action taken under the Shops Act, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936, during the year.

## Camping Sites.

None, other than Military, in the area.

## Smoke Abatement.

52 observations were taken by the Sanitary Department during the year.

The time limit allowed for black smoke emission was exceeded in 3 instances. In one case a formal notice was issued.

The number of factory and works chimneys in the district is 57.



## Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Inspections ... ..	27	Notices ... ..	—
Defects ... ..	—	Remedied ... ..	—
Other Nuisances—Found ... ..	—		
	Remedied ... ..		—
Sanitary accommodation ... ..	—	Remedied ... ..	—

## Swimming Baths.

Attendances during year—77,031.

Conditions—modern and satisfactory.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Action taken in 32 cases. (11 Council houses and 21 private property.)

H.C.N. process and steam disinfection.

## Sanitary Condition of Schools.

*Vide* School Medical Report.

## Offensive Trades.

None.

## Common Lodging Houses.

There are 2 in the Borough, registered.

Address.	Accommodation.	
	Bedrooms.	Occupants.
15 Simpson Street ... ..	4	12
58 Old Hall Street ... ..	5	17
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9	29
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The conditions are average.

## Houses Let in Lodgings.

Three houses are registered. The accommodation in each house is as follows :—

Address.	Total No. of Rooms (let in lodgings)	Total No. of Rooms available	Washing Accom- modation	W.C.'s	Bath
2 Heap Street ...	9	6	Wash boiler	2	No
Sedgeley House ...	9	4	Wash house	2	Yes
25 King Street ...	13	2	Cellar	1	No

## Tents, Vans and Sheds.

No action was taken under the By-Laws.

## Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Housing Act, 1936. None in area.

## Canal Boats.

No action.

## Rag Flock Acts 1911 and 1928.

No action.

## Agriculture Act, 1937.

5 instances of Tubercular Milk were reported to the County during the year.

Inspections were made by the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the affected cattle were dealt with under the Provisions of T.B. Order, 1938.

## Hygiene and Sanitation of Shelters.

The following recommendations were submitted to the Air Raid Precautions Committee by me :—

1. *Ventilation.* The door should be kept open two hours or more after each use of shelter.

Ventilators should be kept permanently open.

2. *Spraying.* Spraying should be done after each use of shelter and at frequent intervals during occupation when colds are prevalent.

3. *Prevention of Infection.*

- (a) No person should be admitted to the shelter who is known to be suffering from an infectious disease, or,
- (b) who has been in contact with a case of infection.
- (c) No person suffering from Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Consumption) should be admitted to a public shelter.
- (d) Any known case of infection should be reported to the Public Health Authority without delay.

4. "*Droplet Infection*". Infection from Influenza, infectious colds, etc., is conveyed through the breath, from coughing, sneezing, or loud speaking. It is therefore *particularly* necessary :—

- (1) to avoid breathing another person's breath ;
- (2) to cover the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing ;
- (3) to use a mask over the mouth and nose (such as a clean handkerchief) when infectious colds are prevalent, is recommended.
- (4) Antiseptic spraying is needful at these times.

5. *Sanitary Arrangements.*

- (a) The sanitary pan should be emptied each time after the use of the shelter ; the pan should be thoroughly cleansed and dusted with antiseptic powder.

- (b) A tin of antiseptic dusting powder should be in the compartment for use by each person using the convenience.
- (c) A basin of antiseptic solution for cleansing the hands should be available.
- (d) Draught ventilation should be secured.
- (e) People should relieve themselves as far as possible before entering the shelter.
- (f) If possible, it is suggested that males might go outside the shelter if other convenience is available near by.

6. *General Cleanliness.* Thorough cleansing of the interior of the shelter daily is required :—

- (a) The floor should be kept clean of all refuse, especially food particles, soiled paper, etc.
- (b) Any soiling of the floor by vomit, urine or fæces requires disinfection either by washing with antiseptic fluid or dusting with antiseptic powder.
- (c) All seats should be wiped over with a cloth damped with antiseptic.
- (d) Spray all walls and ceilings freely with antiseptic.
- (e) The immediate surrounds outside the shelter should be kept clear of all rubbish.

7. *Systematic sanitary inspection* of all public shelters is necessary.



## SECTION IV.

## HOUSING.

## (a) Statistics.

## New Houses.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ... ..	72
(i) By the local authority ... ..	—
(ii) By other local authorities ... ..	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	72
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the local authority (included under (a) (i) above ... ..	—
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above)	—

## (b) Housing Conditions.

Standard prevailing—Cottage property, 4—5 rooms.

Housing defects reported during year ... ..	594
New houses built during year ... ..	72
Baths in houses ... ..	5,092

## Sufficiency.

Rate of building since 1914—134 per year.  
as compared with, before 1914—95 per year.

## Overcrowding.

Only 3 houses are now on the Register : difficulty due to accommodating large families.

This state is particularly satisfactory in view of the movement of population throughout the country due to war conditions.

## Housing Schemes.

Further schemes delayed.

**Housing Acts.**

No action during the year.

**Fitness.**

No unfit houses were dealt with by the Housing Committee during the year.

In 1,850 cases there are 2 houses with 1 W.C.

„	136	„	„	3	„	„
„	4	„	„	4	„	„

**Town Planning.**

In abeyance.

**SECTION V.****INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****Milk Supply.**

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926—carried out.

Inspections made during year	...	...	...	116
Referred to County Council	...	...	...	4

**Milk (Special Designations Orders), 1936 and 1938.**

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1936, one Licence for Bottling “Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)” Milk ; one for Distribution of “Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)” Milk, and four for Bottling and Distribution of Accredited Milk were issued during the year.

No. of Licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk :—

Pasteurising plants	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Retail distributors	...	...	...	...	15

There was no refusal of registration of retailer during the year.

One Licence to produce Accredited Milk was revoked by the Lancashire County Council, on account of unsatisfactory samples and infringement of orders.

## Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.

The number of dairy farms in the area on the register is 69 ; number of cows approximately 1,200 ; the number of cow keepers 69 ; number of milk purveyors (other than cow keepers), 54.

Condition of farms, on the whole, average.

## Inspections.

Veterinary Inspection of Dairy Cows carried out in accordance with Circular 1685 (Agriculture Act, 1937, Part IV).

No structural improvement noted during the year.

## Tuberculous Milk.

Samples taken for biological test	...	...	54
Positive	...	...	5

Action taken. Reported to Lancashire County Council. Cases followed up by Veterinary Inspector of Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

\*Bacteriological examinations by Methylene Blue Coliform Test, 108 samples ; Satisfactory, 87 ; Not satisfactory, 21..

Action taken by reviewing conditions and warning farmer.

38 Sediment tests carried out.

\*Includes 54 samples examined for the County.

## Meat and Other Foods.

(a) Inspections carried out, 237.

(b) Found Unfit for human consumption :—

1 entire carcase of Lamb	...	...	78 lbs.
Beef	...	...	658 „
Butter	...	...	26 „
Onions	...	...	50 „
Blackberry Pulp	...	...	10 casks.

(c) Legal proceedings—None.

(d) Food Poisoning—None reported.

(e) Special supervision and instructions issued by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Home Security.

The following instructions have received special attention :—

Special need for alertness with regard to possible contamination of milk, food and water. (Circular letters from Regional Offices, Ministry of Health dated 11.6.40 and 4.10.40.)

Circular 2171 Ministry of Health dated 14.10.40—Enlisting the assistance of Welfare Authorities in the movement for giving guidance to the public on the use of food.

Circular 2172 dated 8.10.40—Purity of Water Supplies.

Circular letter from Ministry of Food, dated 23.12.40—Treatment and disposal of foodstuffs contaminated by Gas.

## Adulteration.

Under Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act and Food and Drugs Act, 1938—

31 Samples examined—all genuine except 1 sample of Milk—deficient in fat.

## Nutrition.

Propaganda on this matter is of paramount importance in advising people how to make the best use of and to get the most out of food articles. There is no doubt that rationing has made the housewife more thoughtful in buying and cooking. Instructions by means of leaflets, Demonstrations at the Corporation Show-rooms, Publications by the Ministry of Food and B.B.C. Wireless Talks are having effect.



# INCIDENCE AND PREVALENCE, 1940.

## TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

Diseases.	Total cases at All Ages	Under 1	Total Cases Notified.										65 and Over	Total Deaths	Total Cases Re- moved to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belong- ing to the district
			1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65				
Scarlet Fever ...	...	39	1	—	3	4	19	7	2	3	—	—	—	—	34	—
Diphtheria (incl. Memb. Croup)	16	—	2	3	—	1	5	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	16	—
Acute Pneumonia ...	...	29	1	—	4	1	1	5	1	2	2	7	4	16	4	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	2	5	2
Erysipelas ...	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	2	—
Chickenpox ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excl. German Measles)...	831	32	56	74	99	89	406	55	6	11	3	—	—	—	3	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	21	4	7	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
German Measles ...	...	4	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	...	954	40	66	81	109	97	436	70	12	10	10	5	24	64	6

## Control.

### Hospital Provision.

Smallpox—Racefield Hospital, Chadderton.

Accommodation allotted—3 beds ; as Racefield Hospital is in use by the Lancashire County Council for T.B. cases, accommodation is available at Ashton-under-Lyne Smallpox Hospital by arrangement.

Average stay in hospital during the year of diphtheria cases has been thirty-seven days. Type, mild on the whole, 2 severe.

Scarlet fever, average stay,  $30\frac{1}{3}$  days. Type, mild.

Cerebro-Spinal fever was notified in 5 cases. All were removed to hospital and 2 of the patients died.

One case was removed to hospital suffering from (?) Typhoid Fever. The diagnosis was later changed to Chronic Cystitis and Chronic Colitis. The patient recovered.

A case of Dysentery was diagnosed in a child whilst a patient in the Boundary Park Hospital, Oldham. The child was transferred to Marland Hospital for treatment and recovered.

### Bacteriological and Pathological Investigation.

Specimens examined in 1940 :—

- (a) diphtheria, 86 ; (b) scarlet fever, — ; (c) enteric fever —  
(d) miscellaneous :—

Milk for methylene blue reduction test...	...	43
Water	... ..	10
Naso-pharyngeal swabs for meningococci	...	17

## Immunisation of Diphtheria.

At present the General Practitioners are provided with A.P.T. and T.A.F. serum and the service is free to parents. 12 cases were recorded during the year.

In accordance with Circular 2230, a greater effort was made towards the end of the year and as a result 76 parents signed notes asking for immunisation of their children to be carried out.

The full scheme as advocated by the County Council is required to be put into operation.

(*Note.*—Although not applicable to the year's report, the effort referred to has resulted in 713 children being immunized up to 1st April, 1941.)

## Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

Four phials 4,000 units and 24 phials 8,000 units issued during 1940. Supplies issued at Health Centre and Police Station.

Measles serum has been used by the General Practitioners in some cases.

Typing of Pneumococci is carried out in Hospital cases.

## Pneumonia, Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.

### Regulations.

Cases notified :—

			1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Pneumonia	...	...	32	43	40	24	29

## Disinfection.

Hypochlorite Fluid is manufactured by means of a Mather and Platt Electrolyser. Total quantity manufactured during the year, 1,366 gallons.

No. of houses disinfected on account of				
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	87
No. of Schools disinfected	...	...	...	25

No. of houses disinfected on account of Tuberculosis (deaths and removals to Sanatoria) ... ..	13
No. of articles disinfected by Thresh Steam Disinfector ... ..	1,777
Disinfestation by the Cyanide process ...	32 houses
By other means—Verminous conditions ...	Bedding only in 1 case
Rats ... ..	Nil.

## Animal and Insect Pests.

Advice given when requested.

## Following up.

*Vide* School Medical Report.

## Tuberculosis.

### Notification of Tuberculosis.

Article 5 of the Tuberculosis Regulations has been referred to in Annual Reports for several years.

### Notifications.

	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Pulmonary :					
Male ... ..	13	11	6	8	11
Female ... ..	7	2	8	9	4
Non-Pulmonary :					
Male ... ..	3	7	4	2	3
Female ... ..	6	5	4	—	2

Ratio of non-notified deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths—2 non-notified out of 12 deaths.

No Tuberculous employees in milk trade have been notified during the year.



## Date of Notification before Death.

		1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Death before notification		—	—	—	—	
Less than one month						
before death	...	2	4	3	—	3
Ditto 2 months	...	2	2	1	—	—
Ditto 3 „	...	2	2	—	—	1
Ditto 4 „	...	—	—	—	1	—
Ditto 5 „	..	2	—	1	1	—
Ditto 6 „	...	—	—	1	1	—
Over 6 months	...	—	—	—	—	—

## New Cases and Deaths during 1940.

			New Cases.				Deaths			
			Non-				Non-			
Years			Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5-10	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
10-15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20-25	...	...	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
25-35	...	...	4	—	—	—	3	1	1	1
35-45	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
45-55	..	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
			11	4	3	2	5	3	1	3

## Cancer.

The same remarks apply as last year.

### Cancer Deaths, 1940.

			Ages			Wards						
			25	45	65							
Part Affected :	M.	F.	to	to	and	N.	C.	S.	E.	P.	W.	
			45	65	over							
Gastro-												
Intestinal ...	10	11	2	6	13	4	5	4	6	1	1	
Breast ...	—	4	—	3	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	
Uterine ...	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	
Urinary System	4	—	1	2	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	
Mediastinum ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Bronchus ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Inguinal ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Lip ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Lung ...	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
Tongue ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Total ...	17	21	3	16	19	9	7	6	9	3	4	

## SECTION VII.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

## Statistics.

	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
	Middleton		England and Wales	
	1939	1940	1939	1940
Deaths under one year of age ...	46	56	50	55
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age	—	8.97	4.6	4.6

Rates per 1,000 Total Births  
(*i.e.*, Live and Still)

## Maternal Mortality.

Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	2.14	0.00	0.74	0.52
Others ...	...	2.14	6.48	2.08	1.64
Total ...	...	4.27	6.48	2.82	2.82

## Notifications.

Puerperal Fever ...	...	4.27	Nil.	14.35	11.96
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...				

## Births.

Births notified under the Notification of Births Act—

(a) Live Births, 271 ; (b) Stillbirths, 7 ; (c) Total, 278\*

(d) By Midwives, 273 ; (e) By Doctors and Parents, 5

Failure to Notify, —

\*In addition, 153 births, 149 live and 4 stillbirths, took place in hospitals etc. outside the Borough.

# Deaths.

Infantile Causes.	M.	F.	Under		Months										Total
			1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	
Congenital Debility, Malformation,															
Premature Birth	6	6	9	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	12
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis	...	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Diarrhoea	...	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Convulsions, Meningitis	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Violence	...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
<hr/>															
TOTAL	...	13	12	11	3	4	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	2	25

## Home Visiting.

Number of Home Visits made by the Health Visitors :—

			1937	1938	1939	1940
(a) To Expectant						
Mothers	...	First Visits	54	58	57	31
		Total Visits	422	423	498	225
(b) To Children under						
1 year of age	...	First Visits	372	455	466	482
		Total Visits	1,751	1,927	2,114	1,880
(c) To Children between						
the age of 1 and						
5 years	...	Total Visits	3,326	3,493	3,673	3,369

## Welfare Centres.

### (a) No. of Attendances at the Centres.

		Durnford	Middleton		
		Street	Junction	Rhodes	Total
(1) Children under 1 year	1939	2,954	986	166	4,106
	1940	1,853	1,769	980	4,602
(2) Children 1—5 years	1939	2,685	913	256	3,854
	1940	1,625	1,260	1,519	4,404

### (b) No. of Children attending for the first time—

		1937	1938	1939	1940
(1) Children under 1 year	...	187	205	229	206
(2) Children 1—5 years	...	64	67	64	34



## Ante- and Post-Natal Services.

### (c) Ante-Natal—

	1937	1938	1939	1940
No. of Attendances of Expectant Mothers at Ante-Natal Clinic...	134	214	151	124
No. of Attendances of Expectant Mothers at Welfare Centres ...	263	332	216	208
No. of Attendances of Expectant Mothers at Dental Clinics ...	14	29	6	3
No. of Expectant Mothers attending ... ..	95	155	134	100
Percentage to local notified Births for the year ... ..	34.93%	62.51%	50.19%	35.97%

### (d) Post-Natal and other Gynaecological Conditions—

	1937	1938	1939	1940
No. of Attendances at Ante-Natal Clinics ... ..	20	17	6	3
No. of Mothers attending ...	13	14	6	3
Percentage to notified Births for the year ... ..	4.78%	5.73%	2.25%	1.08%

### Midwives.

Four appointed under The Midwives Act.

Cases attended during year :—

	1937	1938	1939	1940
(a) As Midwife ... ..	256	246	265	207
(b) As Nurse ... ..	21	37	34	25
(c) No. of cases in which medical help was summoned ...	111	114	145	164

### Maternity Homes and Hospitals.

None in area. Accommodation available at Boundary Park Municipal Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, Crumpsall Hospital, North Manchester Maternity Home.

No. of notifications of births received during year from above—  
153 (149 Live, 4 Stillbirths).

### **Provision for Unmarried Mothers.**

Illegitimate infants, homeless children, sick and mentally defective children, available at Municipal Hospital, Oldham. No arrangements exist for Convalescent Homes for Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

Children under five can be admitted to the Convalescent Sanatorium, Southport.

No Day or Residential Nurseries in area.

### **Maternal Deaths.**

				At Home	In Institutions
(a) From Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
(b) From other causes	...	...	...	1	2

### **Birth Control.**

Crumpsall Hospital—no cases referred.

### **Emergency Maternity Unit.**

Supplied by St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

### **Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia Regulations.**

*Vide* Annual Report, 1932, page 99.

### **Prevention of Blindness.**

In accordance with Circular 1621, Public Health Neonatorum Regulations 1926—1937.

Hospital Treatment—Manchester Children's Hospital.

Home Nursing—followed up by Health Visitors, Middleton District Nursing Association under General Practitioners.

## Orthopaedic Treatment.

*Vide* School Medical Report.

## Dental Treatment.

*Vide* Annual Report, 1938.

No. of cases—Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	2
Children under 5	...	...	...	28

## Home Nursing.

Middleton District Nursing Association.

No. of cases—Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	32
--	-----	-----	----

## Home Helps.

Arrangements, *vide* Minute 1331 (1919).

No. of cases : 4.

## Child Life Protection.

Visitors—3 Health Visitors.

No. of persons registered for children under school age...	2
--	---

No. of children under 5	...	...	...	...	...	2
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Conditions satisfactory.

## Infectious Diseases.

Disease.	No. of cases notified during year.	No. of cases visited by officers of the Council.	No. of cases for whom home nursing was provided by the Council.	No. of cases removed to hospital.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	2	—	—
Measles and German Measles (in children under 5 years of age ...)	362	370	—	1
Whooping Cough ditto ...	19	26	—	—
Epidemic Diarrhœa ...	—	4	—	—

*VIDE SECTION VI.*

## Milk and Food Supply.

Arrangements as before.

Quantity supplied free :— $13\frac{1}{8}$  gallons Liquid Milk.

2,085 lbs. Dried Milk.

Supplied at reduced rate :—345 lbs. Dried Milk.

Cost—£195 0s. 9d.

No. of Mothers and Children supplied : 106

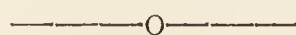
exclusive of those supplied under National Milk Scheme.

The National Milk Scheme in accordance with Circular 1840, Ministry of Health, dated 2.8.39, came into force on the 21st July, 1940 in this area, and is administered by a Special Milk Officer.



Section VIII.

**REPORT**  
**on the**  
**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN**  
For the Year ending December 31st, 1940.



**THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE**  
**SUMMARY.**

## 1. STAFF.

School Medical Officer (who is also Medical Officer of Health) ... ..	1
Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time) ... ..	1
Dental Surgeon (part-time) ... ..	1
School Nurses (who act also as Health Visitors) ...	3
Orthopædic Surgeon and Nurses (part-time) ... ..	2

## 2. SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Schools : Provided ... ..	6
Non-provided ... ..	10
Accommodation : Provided. Nominal ... ..	2,590
Effective ... ..	2,550
Non-provided. Nominal ... ..	3,188
Effective ... ..	2,555

## 3. AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ON THE REGISTER AND AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.

Average number of children on Register ... ..	3,276
Average attendance at Schools ... ..	2,646
Percentage attendance ... ..	86%

## 4. RATEABLE VALUE AND COST OF SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Rateable value (1.4.40)	...	...	...	...	£157,510			
Education Rate (1.4.40)	...	...	...	...	3s. 5.2d.			
Cost of Medical Inspection and Treatment for the financial year ended 31st March, 1940 :—								
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Gross...	...	...	...	...		1,624	13	7
Less : Rent—Health Committee	...		33	2	9			
Contributions <i>re</i> treatment, etc.	...	...	54	16	0			
Air Raid Precautions Services—Proportion Fuel, Light, etc.	...	...	150	0	0			
			<hr/>			237	18	9
						<hr/>		
						£1,386	14	10
						<hr/>		

## 5. SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Hygienic Reports made during the year...	...	...	10
Sanitary Defects reported ...	...	...	9
General Cleanliness Inspections ...	...	...	8,281

## 6. MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Routine Inspections made during the year	...	...	1,170
Special Inspections...	...	...	1,086
Re-inspections	...	...	379

## 7. INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Total in all Schools	...	...	489
Total Exclusions on account of Infectious Diseases	...	...	833
Disinfection of School Buildings	...	...	25
Low attendance Certificates granted	...	...	13
Closure of School on account of Infection	...	...	Nil.

## 8. CLINIC TREATMENT.

Attendances at Minor Ailments Clinic	...	...	...	8,700
Nutrition Clinic (reviewed)	...	...	...	96
Eye Clinic...	...	...	...	255
Dental Clinic	...	...	...	1,806
Sunlight Clinic	...	...	...	467
Remedial Clinic	...	...	...	659
Tonsil and Adenoid Operations...	...	...	...	13
Ringworm X-Rays	...	...	...	—
Referred T.B. Dispensary	...	...	...	3
Squint Training	...	...	...	98

## 9. SCHOOL FEEDING.

Number of children on list...	...	...	...	475
Number of Milk Meals provided	...	...	...	447,500

## 10. BATHS.

Number of attendances of Children at Public Baths	...	...	...	49,693
---	-----	-----	-----	--------

## 11. SEASIDE CONVALESCENCE, ETC.

Number of Children sent to the Seaside under :—

(a) Mayor's Holiday Camp Fund	...	...	...	—
(b) Children's Aid Society—				
Lytham	...	...	...	—
Jubilee Cot, Southport	...	...	...	—
(c) Southport Children's Sanatorium	...	...	...	7
(d) Others—				
Convalescent Farm, Mellor, Derbyshire				
(Cripples' Help Society)	...	...	...	6

## 12. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Certificates Granted. Part-time	...	...	...	102
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

## 13. STATISTICAL TABLES. (See pages 54-58).

Organization of the work of the Health Centre was dealt with in 1936 Report, *vide* page 127.

## CO-ORDINATION WITH THE CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

This is satisfactory.

The work of the Child Welfare Service is given in Section VII of the combined Report on the Health of the Borough.

### Staff.

Mrs. M. Hodson resigned during the year and Miss A. Dean was appointed to the position.

## SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The Schools have been under constant supervision as in previous years. The following matters came under review during the year :—

Defective rubber cone to fresh water closet ; Burst water supply pipes to fresh water closets ; Defective water supply pipes to lavatory bowls ; Lack of grate to slop waste gully ; Trough to waste water closets partially blocked ; Insecure ridge tile to roof—boys' entrance ; Insecure eaves gutter to girls' W.C. ; Unsatisfactory surface to boys' urinal, allowing water to lodge thereon and to flow on to surface of boys' yard ; Blocked surface water drain ; storage of footwear unhealthy ; Insufficient lavatory accommodation ; Lavatory compounds dirty ; Defective heating ; Blankets to be disinfected ; Empty milk-bottles to be removed from class-rooms and straws destroyed ; Racks in which milk supplied to schools dirty ; Cloak rack placed in class-room causing unhygienic conditions ; Ventilation of class-rooms ; Uncleanliness of school.

### Improvements carried out during the year.

The building of the new Primary School at Alkrington was completed. The School was opened on 11th December, 1940.

No Vita Glass panes were replaced in broken windows during the year ; the total remains at 232.



## Personal Cleanliness of Children.

General Cleanliness Inspections were carried out by the School Nurses with the following results :—

Number of Children examined.	Unsatisfactory Conditions Found :			
	Nits.	Skin.	Clothing.	Footgear.
8,281	425	63	21	21

## Health Education.

No Schools Health Week was arranged owing to War Conditions. Posters and pamphlets were distributed to the Schools.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children inspected during the year was :—

	Routine.	Special.	Re-Inspections.
	1,170	1,086	379
Entrants ... ..	309		
Intermediates ... ..	453		
Leavers ... ..	341		
Other Ages ... ..	67		

## Nature of Medical Inspection—Findings.

The inspection of each child entails the detailed examination under each particular given in the Schedule below.

The figures shown opposite each item give the total number of Defects found in Routine and Special Inspections Combined (2,156 Total).

	1939	1940
1. Clothing ... ..	5	2
2. Footgear ... ..	6	4
3. Cleanliness—Head ... ..	34	17
4. „ Body ... ..	1	1
5. Nutrition ... ..	82	12
6. Skin—Ringworm, Head ... ..	—	—

				1939		1940
7.	„	„	Body ...	1	...	1
8.	„	Scabies...	... ..	3	...	11
9.	„	Impetigo	... ..	38	...	33
10.	„	Other Diseases	... ..	123	...	115
11.	Eye—	Blepharitis	... ..	19	...	14
12.	Eye—	Conjunctivitis	... ..	25	...	15
13.	„	Other Conditions	... ..	18	...	22
14.	„	Vision R.	... ..	} 201	...	142
15.	„	„ * L.	... ..			
16.	„	Squint	... ..	49	...	49
17.	Ear—	Hearing...	... ..	14	...	9
18.	„	Otitis media	... ..	34	...	15
19.	„	Other Diseases...	... ..	15	...	11
20.	Nose and Throat—	Tonsils	... ..	386	...	312
21.	„	Adenoids		3	...	6
22.	„	Other Conditions		191	...	143
23.	„	Tonsils and				
		Adenoids...		14	...	3
24.	Cervical Glands	... ..		135	...	123
25.	Speech...	... ..		22	...	17
26.	Teeth—	Number Decayed	... ..	610	...	482
27.	„	Conditions (other)	... ..	64	...	50
28.	Heart and	Circulation	... ..	78	...	78
29.	Anæmia	... ..		54	...	32
30.	Lungs	... ..		33	...	15
31.	Tuberculosis—	Pulmonary	... ..	1	...	1
32.	„	Non-Pulmonary		7	...	11
33.	Nervous System—	Epilepsy	... ..	5	...	4
34.	„	Chorea	... ..	1	...	4
35.	„	Other Conditions		40	...	32
36.	Deformities—	Rickets	... ..	10	...	—
37.	„	Spinal Curvature		8	...	5
38.	„	Other Forms	... ..	247	...	210
39.	Other Defects and	Diseases	... ..	488	...	310
40.	Mental Conditions	... ..		9	...	14

# PHYSIQUE OF THE CHILDREN.

## Averages.

The averages of the Height and Weight correlation in Middleton children compared with the British (Dunstan table) and American (Emerson) standards, and the number of children shewing a 7% (and more) Underweight for Height in each.

Height	Middleton			British (Dunstan)			American (Emerson)		
	1940 Weight	Cases 7% Un'wgt.	Average of 5 years Weight	Hgt.	Wgt.	Cases 7% Un'wgt.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Cases 7% Un'wgt.
38									
& under	33.20	1	34.5	38	34	4	38	33.5	4
39	... 36.0	1	35.5	39	35	—	39	34.5	—
40	... 38.32	5	37	40	36	1	40	36	1
41	... 38.41	3	38	41	38	1	41	37.5	—
42	... 40.14	4	40	42	40	14	42	39	6
43	... 42.44	5	41	43	42	4	43	41	2
44	... 43.51	7	43.5	44	44	12	44	43	5
45	... 45.84	5	45.5	45	45	—	45	45.5	—
46	... 48.56	6	48.5	46	48	7	46	47.5	7
47	... 51.12	7	49	47	50	—	47	50	—
48	... 52.93	11	52.5	48	52	6	48	52.5	6
49	... 54.49	7	55	49	54	2	49	55	4
50	... 58.58	11	57	50	56	7	50	58	16
51	... 60.40	12	60	51	59	1	51	61	5
52	... 63.07	8	63.5	52	62	4	52	64	9
53	... 67.5	8	66.5	53	65	2	53	68	5
54	... 70.93	3	69	54	68	8	54	71.5	19
55	... 74.06	9	73.5	55	71	4	55	75	4
56	... 76.15	8	73.5	56	74	1	56	79	5
57	... 83.06	12	79	57	77	—	57	84.5	1
58	... 86.18	9	83.5	58	80	—	58	89	19
59	... 90.31	8	86	59	83	1	59	94	7
60	... 93.13	3	90.5	60	86	1	60	100	7
61	... 103.04	4	93.5	61	89	—	61	105	—
62	... 101.00	4	96.5	62	92	—	62	111	5
63	... 98.17	1	109.5	63	95	—	63	116.5	—
64	... 110.00	—	106	64	98	—	64	121.5	1
65	... —	—	108.5	65	101	—	65	126	—
66	... —	—	110	—	—	—	—	—	—
67	... —	—	114.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
68	... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
69	... —	—	82	—	—	—	—	—	—
70	... —	—	110	—	—	—	—	—	—

## FOLLOWING UP.

1.	Visits to the Schools by the School Nurses	...	...	1,048
	(a) General Cleanliness Inspections	...	...	8,281
	(b) Follow-up of S.M.I. Defects	...	...	1,111
	(c) Conferring with Teachers <i>re</i> Sick Absentees	...		227
	(d) Clinic non-attendance enquiries	...	...	173
	(e) Contacts and suspicious cases of Infection	...		131

### 2. Home Visits :—

	No. of Visits
(a) Nursed out children under the Children Act	33
(b) Sick Absentees	1,008
(c) Infectious Cases and Contacts	605
(d) Cases of Prolonged Absenteeism	21

## NUTRITION.

No. examined.	Assessment of children.
1,170.	A. & B. 91.80%
	C. & D. 8.20%
No. of children receiving school milk free	475
No. of children receiving a Mid-Day Meal	61

Physique—See page 39 and Nutrition Clinic.

## CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### State of Vaccination.

Year.	Entrants.	Intermediates.	Leavers.	Others
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1936	12.67	27.37	35.5	11.76
1937	18.04	26.28	28.09	19.51
1938	14.69	16.9	34.47	18.18
1939	11.63	19.18	27.40	14.59
1940	14.89	18.32	29.32	16.42



## Infectious Diseases History.

	Entrants.	Intermediates.	Leavers.	Others.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Measles ... ..	58.26	74.18	85.35	79.12
Whooping Cough...	30.10	43.94	53.67	46.27
Chickenpox ... ..	14.89	39.96	54.25	37.32
Scarlet Fever ...	3.88	6.62	16.13	8.95
Diphtheria ... ..	1.94	5.24	5.57	8.95
Pneumonia ... ..	1.62	5.52	10.85	8.95
Other Diseases ...	5.50	14.57	21.99	20.9

## Incidence of Infectious Diseases.

	Ch	SF	D	Pn	M	WC	GM	TB	T
Parish C. of E. ... ..	—	3	—	2	25	—	—	—	30
Durnford Street ... ..	—	1	1	—	47	—	—	1	50
Thornham ... ..	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	18
Boarshaw Primary ... ..	—	5	—	—	53	—	—	—	58
Parkfield ... ..	—	1	—	—	43	—	1	1	46
Rhodes ... ..	—	1	1	—	38	—	—	—	40
Birch ... ..	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7
Bowlee ... ..	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7
Tonge ... ..	—	7	—	—	53	1	—	—	61
St. Peter's ... ..	1	3	2	2	34	1	—	—	43
Elm Street ... ..	—	—	1	—	35	—	—	—	36
St. Gabriel's ... ..	—	1	—	1	58	—	—	—	60
Alkrington ... ..	1	1	—	—	12	—	—	—	14
Other ... ..	—	1	2	—	18	—	1	—	22
	2	24	7	5	448	2	2	2	492

Ch—Chickenpox. SF—Scarlet Fever. D—Diphtheria. Pn—Pneumonia.  
M—Measles. WC—Whooping Cough. GM—German Measles.  
TB—Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary. T—Total,

Seasonal Incidence.

	Ch	SF	D	Pn	M	WC	GM	TB	T
January ... ..	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	5
February ... ..	—	4	—	—	8	—	—	—	12
March ... ..	—	3	1	—	67	—	—	—	71
April ... ..	—	—	—	—	154	1	1	2	158
May ... ..	—	1	1	2	126	—	—	—	130
June ... ..	2	—	—	1	58	—	—	—	61
July ... ..	—	2	—	—	21	—	—	—	23
August ... ..	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	8
September ... ..	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	5
October ... ..	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	6
November ... ..	—	4	1	—	2	—	1	—	8
December... ..	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	5
	2	24	7	5	448	2	2	2	492

Ch—Chickenpox. SF—Scarlet Fever. D—Diphtheria. Pn—Pneumonia.  
M—Measles. WC—Whooping Cough. GM—German Measles.  
TB—Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary. T—Total.

Age Incidence.

	Years											Total
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
Boys ... ..	80	63	26	18	12	17	11	8	2			237
Girls ... ..	79	58	49	29	11	14	9	3	3			255
	159	121	75	47	23	31	20	11	5			492

Exclusions. (Under Art. 53 (b). Code 1909).

1.			2.		3.
Infectious			Other		
Infectious	not	(ringworm,			Debility,
Notifiable.	notifiable.	Contacts.	etc.)	Verminous.	etc.
518	159	156	63	—	61

					No. of children excluded.
Under Paragraph 1	...	...	...	...	896
„ 2	...	...	...	...	—
„ 3	...	...	...	...	61

### Infectious Diseases Investigated in the homes.

			First Visit.	Subsequent Visit.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	23	5
Chickenpox	...	...	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	8	8
Pneumonia	...	...	5	2
Measles	...	...	451	94
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	—
Contacts	...	...	1	—
Suspicious Throats	...	...	2	—
Other Visits	...	...	3	—

### Disinfection of Schools.

The number of schools disinfected during the year by the Sanitary Department was 25.

### Closure of Schools.

No schools were closed during the year on account of epidemic disease.

### Low Attendance Certificates Issued.

School.	Week ending.	Per Cent. Attendance.
Parish C. of E. Infant School	... 2nd February, 1940	53.6
St. Peter's Infant School	... „ „	50.5
Rhodes Infant School	... 9th February, 1940.	47.3
„	...16th February, 1940.	56.0
„	...23rd February, 1940.	50.2
Durnford Street Infant School	.12th April, 1940	59.7

School.	Week ending.	Per Cent. Attendance.
Parkfield Infant School	... 3rd May, 1940	54.1
„	...10th May, 1940.	53.4
„	...17th May, 1940.	54.6
Birch School ... ..	...19th April, 1940.	42.4
„ ... ..	...26th April, 1940.	42.9
„ ... ..	... 3rd May, 1940.	40.0
„ ... ..	...10th May, 1940.	45.0

## MEDICAL TREATMENT.

### Cost of Treatment.

	Nett Cost.	Approximate cost per attendance.
	£ s. d.	s. d.
1. Dental Clinic... ..	135 6 7 ...	1 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
2. Minor Ailments ... ..	29 15 0 ...	0 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
3. Eye Clinic ... ..	29 12 10 ...	1 8
4. Sunlight Clinic ... ..	*0 8 4 ...	—
5. Remedial Clinic ... ..	51 3 6 ...	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

\*Excess of-income over expenditure.

### Minor Ailments Clinic.

Sessions.	Cases.	Attendances.	Treatments.
504	2,514	8,700	8,207

### Nature of Cases.

				Attendances :		
				1938	1939	1940
Cleanliness—Head	}	...	...	—	1	11
Body						
Nutrition ... ..	...	...	...	12	34	4
Ringworm—Head	...	...	...	—	—	—
Body ... ..	...	...	...	12	16	10

	1938	1939	1940
Scabies ... ..	—	28	73
Impetigo ... ..	1221	357	471
Other Diseases...	1417	1206	1317
Blepharitis ... ..	35	29	10
Conjunctivitis ... ..	68	67	15
Other Conditions ... ..	163	52	179
Vision ... ..	123	86	16
Squint ... ..	45	20	3
Hearing... ..	5	5	—
Otitis Media ... ..	250	222	34
Other Diseases...	14	46	69
Tonsils and Adenoids...	21	7	5
Tonsils ... ..	16	7	8
Adenoids ... ..	1	2	1
Other Conditions ... ..	182	110	188
Glands ... ..	23	23	5
Speech ... ..	1	3	—
Teeth ... ..	72	68	11
Heart Disease ... ..	11	5	5
Anæmia ... ..	12	2	—
Lungs ... ..	37	10	6
Tuberculosis ... ..	4	10	4
Epilepsy ... ..	7	3	2
Chorea ... ..	—	3	5
Other Conditions ... ..	21	8	7
Rickets ... ..	2	—	7
Other Deformities ... ..	34	31	15
Other Defects and Diseases ... ..	337	180	105
Minor Injuries ... ..	3377	2064	5628
Infectious and Contact Examinations	946	568	370
Special Examinations...	278	275	116
Thyroid Treatment ... ..	—	—	—
	<hr/> 8747 <hr/>	<hr/> 5548 <hr/>	<hr/> 8700 <hr/>



## Nutrition Clinic.

Children referred for their nutritional conditions are recorded in the particulars as shewn in last year's Report at each examination. There are 283 records of such children.

## Eye Clinic.

Sessions.	Cases referred.	Attendances.	Treatments.
20	303	255	255

Spectacles prescribed, 182 ; Failed to carry out treatment, 10 ; Referred to Committee, 11 ; Cases attending Squint Class, 6 ; Attendances, 98.

## Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

Sessions.	No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.	No. of Treatments.
47	69	467	467

## Nature of Cases.

Nutritional	Delicate.	Orthopædic.	General.
1	24	6	38

These included :—

Defective Nutrition	...	...	...	...	1
Impetigo ...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Diseases (Eczema, Alopecia, Psoriasis)...					3
Other Eye	...	...	...	...	3
Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	1
Other Ear...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Hearing	...	...	...	...	3
Other Conditions...	...	...	...	...	3
Enlarged Glands ...	...	...	...	...	6
Other Lungs	...	...	...	...	1
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	...	2
Other Nervous Conditions		...	...	...	7
Other Deformities	...	...	...	...	6

Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	11
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	11
Post Infection	...	...	...	...	...	7

In addition there were 438 attendances of pre-school children.

## Remedial Clinic.

Sessions.	No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances.	No. of Treatments.	
86	38	659	730	
Cases referred to Hospitals	...	...	...	7
Admitted to Hospital	...	...	...	1
Provided with apparatus (Cripples' Help Society)	...	...	...	3

### Details of Cases at 31st December, 1940.

Age-group :	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8
Boys ...	1	—	7	—	4	2	—	2
Girls : ...	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	2
Age-group :	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14		
Boys ...	1	—	—	1	—	—		
Girls ...	—	2	—	1	1	4		

Age-groups :			Infantile			Other	
Boys :			Paralysis.	Rickets.	T.B.	Conditions.	
Child Welfare	...	...	—	8	—	4	
Entrants	...	...	—	1	—	3	
Intermediates	...	...	—	—	—	2	
Leavers	...	...	—	—	—	—	
Girls :							
Child Welfare	...	...	—	4	—	5	
Entrants	...	...	1	1	—	2	
Intermediates	...	...	—	—	—	3	
Leavers	...	...	—	—	—	5	

Total, 39.

## Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Tonsil and Adenoid operations referred by General Practitioners to Hospital, 12.

### Ringworm Clinic.

Transferred to Manchester Skin Hospital, Nil.

Local Cases, 1. Attendances, 10. Treatments, 10.

### Dental Clinic.

With reference to last year's observations, (2) (3) and (4) have been complied with.

	1939	1940
The number of Treatment Sessions held during the year ... ..	122	157
„ Inspection Sessions held during the year ... ..	23	31
„ Children notified to attend for Treatment ... ..	2090	3008
„ Children attending for Treatment ...	755	952
The Total Attendances ... ..	1516	1806

### Nature of Treatment.

	1939	1940
Fillings ... ..	473	396
Extractions ... ..	1364	2067
Others (gum treatment, etc.) ... ..	30	30
Local Anæsthesia used (Nopaine) ... ..	951	1343

See Table V, page 57.

### Tuberculosis—On T.B. Register.

New cases notified during the year ... ..	2
Old cases remaining ... ..	12
Number of children on the Active List (T.B. Lungs) —	
Number of children on the Quiescent List ...	1
Children suffering from other forms of T.B. ...	11
At School ... ..	12
Not at School ... ..	—
In Institution ... ..	—

Three children were referred to the T.B. Dispensary during the year.

## OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

Previous years' remarks apply.

## PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Physical Training is carried out by the Lady Physical Training Organiser appointed to organise the combined areas of Middleton, Chadderton, Radcliffe and Farnworth. The Male Organiser is on war service.

## SCHOOL FEEDING.

### Free Meals.

61 children have received Mid-day Meals during the financial year, and 8,812 free meals were provided.

### Morning Milk.

The milk supplied is pasteurized in  $\frac{1}{3}$ -pint bottles. With the milk, Parkin/Bread and Butter/Raisin Biscuit is supplied in rotation.

For the period 1st April, 1939, to 31st March, 1940 :—

Number of individual children fed (free)	...	...	475
Number of meals provided (free)	...	...	74,398
Cost per ration—Food	...	...	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.
Cost per ration—Milk	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Total Cost per Meal	...	...	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

School Feeding. Total meals, 447,500 approximate.

## SCHOOL BATHS.

49,693 attendances by school children were made during the year.

778 sessions for swimming lessons were held with an attendance of 15,478.

This work has been curtailed as the Baths were taken over for National Service in September, 1939.

## Co-operation of Parents is helpful and valuable.

Attendance of parents at Medical Inspections :—

Entrants.	Intermediates.	Leavers.	Others.
76.38%	52.55%	23.46%	44.78%

## Voluntary Help.

Owing to war conditions, no children were sent to Rossall or Lytham as in former years.

Seven children were sent to the Children's Sanatorium, Southport for three weeks.

The Middleton Auxiliary of the Cripples' Help Society dealt with 2 children at the Marple Home and 6 girls at the Farm, Mellor.

The N.S.P.C.C. dealt with 8 cases, affecting 10 boys and 10 girls.

The Mayor's Clog Fund provided 138 new pairs of Clogs and 20 pairs were repaired.

## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

### 1. Blind.

One child, a boy aged 9 is still under the care of a Manchester Specialist, as reported last year.

### 2. Partially Sighted.

One boy, aged 13, attends the Oldham Blind School. One girl, aged 12, attends the ordinary school—severe myopia. One girl, aged 11, totally blind Right Eye, congenital retinal defect, Left eye normal.

### 3. Deaf.

One child (a girl aged 6 years), Deaf Mute and Feeble-minded, is in an Institution.



#### 4. Partially Deaf.

There are 2 boys attending the ordinary schools—cases of Otitis Media—and 1 girl a case of congenital occlusion of the meatus.

#### 5. Mentally Defective.

There is a total of 11 children—6 boys and 5 girls. The ages of the boys, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 13, and of the girls, 6, 6, 10, 10, 13.

Of these 3 boys and 2 girls are attending the ordinary schools.

Two girls attend a special school.

Not at school—1 girl and 2 boys.

One boy, aged 12 years, Certified M.D. by another authority, is in a Remand Home.

There are 3 combined cases—

Boy, aged 13—Feeble-minded and Epilepsy—at School.

Boy, aged 11—Feeble-minded and Epilepsy—in Institution.

Girl, aged 6—Deaf Mute and Feeble-minded—in Institution.

#### 6. Epileptic.

There are 4 boys, aged 7, 11, 11, 13. One boy, aged 13 (Feeble-minded and Epileptic) is attending school ; 2 boys aged 11 are in an Institution ; 1 boy aged 7 is at home. The boys aged 11 and 13 are combined cases (Epilepsy and Feeble-minded).

### Physically Defective Children.

#### 1. Tuberculosis.

(a) Pulmonary.

One girl aged 9, a quiescent case, is at school.

(b) Non-Pulmonary—4 boys and 7 girls.

Ages—Boys : 8, 10, 11, 13.

Girls : 6, 7, 7, 7, 8, 11, 11.

These include Tubercular Glands 6, Hip 2, Peritoneum 1, .  
Foot 2. All these children are attending school.

Only 2 cases were notified during the year. One was a case of  
Tubercular Meningitis and the patient died.

These children are all under observation at the Tuberculosis  
Dispensary, Ashton-under-Lyne.

On Tuberculosis Register, 12.

## 2. Delicate Children.

Nature of Case.				At School.		Not at School.		In Institution.		
Rheumatism ... ..				5		—		—		
Heart? ... ..				18		—		—		
Asthma ... ..				2		—		—		
Other Delicate... ..				2		—		—		
				Ages.				Total.		
<hr/>										
	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	
Boys	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	4	10
Girls	—	1	1	2	2	2	1	5	3	17

## 3. Crippled Children.

A total of 14 children is returned under this heading :—

13 at School.

1 in Institution.

	Ages.									Total.
	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	
Boys	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	5
Girls	2	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	2	9

These cases include :—

Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	5
Osteomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Coxa vara	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stiffening from healed T.B. Knee	...	...	...	...	...	1
Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	3
Deformity Hand	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Scoliosis	...	...	...	...	...	1

12 cases have attended the Remedial Clinic.

Others—2. One of these was in Institution and the other had been under supervision.

#### 4. Heart.

One severe case under medical attention has been off school since March, 1939. 22 children were found at Medical Inspections with various degrees of Heart defects—but the children attend school.

#### 5. Rheumatism.

Special attention is directed to Rheumatic symptoms in children, and the parents warned and advised.

The children are kept under supervision.

### CHILDREN ACTS.

There is 1 child of school age registered "Nursed Out."

The number of children certified for Part Time Employment under the Byelaws (Employment of Children Act) was 92.

The number of children certified for Employment of Children in Entertainments was 7.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLES.

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TABLE 1.

**Medical Inspection of Children Attending Public  
Elementary Schools.**

## A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

	Numbers.					
Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	309
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	453
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	341
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,103
Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	67
						<hr/>
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	1,170
						<hr/>

## B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections	... 1,465
	<hr/>

TABLE 2.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF  
CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN  
THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS UP TO  
31st DECEMBER, 1940.

Age-groups.	No. of Children	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		Inspected	No.    %	No.    %	No.    %	No.    %	No.    %		
Entrants	... 309	22	7.11	278	89.98	9	2.91	—	—
Second Age-group	453	61	13.46	347	76.62	44	9.72	1	0.2
Third Age-group	341	110	32.26	194	56.89	37	10.85	—	—
Other Routine Inspections .	67	12	17.90	50	74.64	5	7.46	—	—
Total	1,170	205	17.52	869	74.28	95	8.12	1	0.08

TABLE 3.

## BLIND CHILDREN.

At no School or Institution	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1



TABLE 4.

**Group 2.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects).**

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including squint). Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the School Medical Officer's Report	255	5	260
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—	—	—
Total ... ..	255	5	260

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Number of Children for whom Spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed ... ..	182	5	187
(b) Obtained ... ..	172	5	177

**Group 3.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.**

Received Operative Treatment :—

Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital...	(1)	—
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from Authority's Scheme ... ..	(2) (iii)	12
Total ... ..	(3) (iii)	12
Received other forms of Treatment ... ..	(4)	—
Total number treated ... ..	(5)	12

(i) Tonsils only.      (ii) Adenoids only.      (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.  
    (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

TABLE 5.

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist—

(a) Routine age-groups

Age	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Number	3	236	286	334	336	387	
Age	10	11	12	13	14	Total	
Number	276	121	215	202	9	2405	

(b) Specials ... .. 55

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) ... .. 2,460

(2) Number found to require treatment ... .. 1,971

(3) Number actually treated ... .. 952

Children re-treated ... .. 324

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 1,806

(5) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection	...	...	...	...	31	
Treatment	...	...	...	...	157	
					—	188

(6) Fillings—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	358	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	38	
				—	396

(7) Extractions—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	299	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	1,768	
				—	2,067

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions... —

Local anæsthetics ... .. 1,343

(9) Other Operations—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	28	
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	2	
				—	30

TABLE 6.  
UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS  
CONDITIONS.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	5.6
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses...	...	...	...	...	8,281
(3) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	128
(4) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921...	...	...	...	...	—
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...	...	...	—

## A RETROSPECT REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Memory for past events is apt to be short, so it is well to review the progress in the School Medical Service during the past twenty years, which has resulted in the better health, greater growth, satisfactory cleanliness of the children, and improved hygiene and sanitation of the schools.

The first steps taken were the complete re-organisation of the School Medical Service.

A complete system of school medical inspection was put into force, thereby bringing all school children under review by routine and special medical inspections.

Health visiting of the children by the School Nurses was placed on a new basis, ensuring the following up of all children in the schools and at the homes.

Investigation was carried out relating to general cleanliness, sick absenteeism, defects found at medical inspection, and infection. Weekly reports were made on these circumstances, in addition to special reports relating to problem cases, nursed-out children, prolonged absenteeism from school and exceptional children.

Soon a very complete record on the card index system was available of all children on the school registers. The teachers and parents were kept informed of the condition of the children found at each inspection, and their willing co-operation was most helpful. A special index card for each child was made out for the Head Teacher's use and these are kept at the schools.

The nurses' work is of particular importance and is a necessary adjunct to the medical inspections. A thorough system of following up and liaison with the teachers, parents, and the School Attendance Officer was instituted, which has resulted in a sound knowledge of the children and their home conditions. Healthy home conditions were particularly advocated, and records kept of overcrowding and other adverse conditions in the homes, and steps were taken to have these remedied as they were discovered. It was found that



home conditions, if not satisfactory in hygienic, sanitary and nutritional particulars, neutralized all the benefits gained in the schools.

Hygiene in the schools was pressed and everything done to engender a Health Conscience in the school life of the child. A Hygiene Scheme for the schools was put into force. A Schools Health Week was instituted as part of Health Week in each year. The Schools Health Week became an important feature of school hygiene. The opening each year was held in the Empire Theatre when all senior children attended, numbering about 1,000, and an excellent programme was arranged. This included the opening address by the Chairman of the Education Committee, the singing of the Schools Health Song by the children, and the showing of Health cinema films, specially selected for the children. The Schools Health Song became a popular method of impressing the children with essential health dogma. The words of the song were composed by me, and the music set by the late Mr. Winterbottom.

In addition to this opening ceremony the Schools Health Week was made up by Health Exhibitions in the schools, the writing of health essays by the children, exhibits and demonstrations by the Dental Board of the United Kingdom, the Milk Publicity Council, the Health and Cleanliness Council, and other recognised Health Organizations. The exhibits produced by the children were of a high standard, and the interest and co-operation of the teachers and parents were essential features.

The seed sown by these health endeavours was soon apparent on the children. These efforts were fostered by the formation of the Junior Branch of the Middleton Personal Health Association for school children. It started with a membership of 900 children, and kept alive the teachings of Health Week throughout the year.

Clinic accommodation at this period was unsatisfactory. An army hut served as the clinic building. The work was carried on with difficulty and inconvenience. Year after year I pressed for better facilities so that the expanding clinic work could be performed satisfactorily. At last my recommendations received support and plans for a new clinic building were approved by the Ministry. It



was a red-letter-day in the School Medical Service when the Health Centre was officially opened by the Mayor on 10th October, 1931. This model building drew the attention of other Authorities and many deputations and Medical Officers visited the building. Some of the clinics since built have been modelled on the Middleton Health Centre.

The number of the clinic sessions held at the Centre began to increase, and up to the war 25 clinic sessions were held each week.

One of the most interesting clinics is the Artificial Sunlight Clinic. The equipment for this important clinic was obtained by voluntary subscriptions raised by the Ladies' Health Week Committee, and the establishment of this clinic has not cost the Authority one penny since its inception. This clinic is one of the most popular with the parents, and the results gained from the treatment are excellent.

Unfortunately, the Health Centre has been taken over for war purposes as a First Aid Post, a policy which I strongly disagreed with from the beginning.

I have at all times advocated open air education for the children. In 1928 I circularized the teachers asking for the number of children in the schools who had never seen the sea. I obtained a nominal roll of 600 children and made a public appeal for funds to send these children to the seaside. A public meeting of the Personal Health Association was called and it was resolved to form the Mayor's Holiday Camp Fund. Through this organization 100 children each year have since been sent to the Cinderella Home at Rossall up to the war.

For young children under seven years the Carnegie Paddling Pool at the Town Hall grounds was built and opened in 1930, as a result of a donation which I was instrumental in obtaining from the Carnegie Trust, U.K.

Linked up with these Health endeavours was that of nutrition of the children. This I viewed early as one of the major factors in Health Education, and the subject was emphasized in Schools Health Weeks, in the Cinemas, by pamphlets and posters, by

practical demonstrations and exhibits. I enlisted the services of the National Milk Publicity Council and I am grateful to them for the support I have received from time to time.

The object of this sustained propaganda was not only to educate the children but also the parents in the right uses of food. Pasteurized milk was advocated in the schools. The selection of meals at the Feeding Centre came under my supervision, and my aim has been to use the Centre to educate the children in right feeding, food habits and personal hygiene.

Control against infectious diseases in the schools was placed on an organized and comprehensive basis; consequently it has not been found necessary to close any of the schools on account of epidemic outbreaks. It cannot be said that there have been any exceptional epidemics in Middleton for the past twenty years. There have been the periodic waves of the ordinary notifiable diseases affecting children. These, however, have been kept under control and in the majority the type of illness has been mild. I have stressed mass immunization but this work will have to be placed on a clinic basis, as I have repeatedly advocated, to get a sufficient protection in the children against Diphtheria.

Up to 1927 matters affecting the School Medical Service were dealt with in the School Management Sub-committee. This I found unsatisfactory and I proposed a separate committee—the School Medical Sub-committee—to which reports on the School Medical activities have since been submitted monthly. This has proved a great advantage and beneficial to the School Medical Service. Special detailed reports are prepared by me for the Committee each month. These reports have kept the members of the Committee informed of the activities of the School Medical Services, and have been the means of centering greater attention on the service.

The “Middleton Health Pictorial” (“Middleton on the Pictures”) which was shown in the cinemas during the 1933 Health Week, excited a good deal of interest in explaining on the cinema screen the health activities in the Middleton schools.

The Pictorial was subsequently exhibited by request before a

meeting of the members of the Society of Medical Officers of Health in Manchester.

A number of investigations on School problems have been carried out by me during this period. The following are some of the subjects investigated. These articles were published in the Annual Reports of the years indicated :—

1923.—“The Effect of Thyroid Administration on Retarded and Mentally Defective Children.”

1924.—“Inquiry into Thyroid Enlargement occurring in Middleton School Children.”

1925.—“The Effect of School Feeding on Underfed Children.”  
“Relationship of Physical Defects, Intelligence Quotient and the Quality of School Work in Children Retarded three or more Standards.”

1926.—“Report on Ultra-Violet-Ray Treatment.”

1927.—“The Ætiology of the Pre-school Child.”

1928.—“The Illumination of Class-rooms in Middleton Elementary Schools.”

1929.—“Inquiry into ‘Eye Defects and School Conditions’.”

1930.—“Inquiry on the ‘Instruction of the School children in Personal Hygiene from the Medical Aspect’.”

1931.—“Relationship of Eye with Nose and Throat Defects.”

1932.—“Height and Weight Standards of Middleton Children.”

1933.—“Nutrition Investigation.”

1934.—“Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in the Schools during the Quinquennium 1930-1934.”

1935.—“Inquiry—‘Nutrition Report’.”

1936.—“Rheumatism in School Children.”

1937.—“Health Comparison of School children living in (a) Corporation houses ; (b) Overcrowded houses ; (c) Unfit houses.”

1938.—“Inquiry into ‘The Difficulties in carrying out Domiciliary Treatment of Infectious Diseases’.”

Many interesting points were elucidated as the result of these inquiries, e.g., it was found that backward children improved both mentally and physically under Thyroid treatment ; that in underfed



children the chief causes are improper home feeding and want of milk ; that there is a preponderance of physical defects in Retarded children as compared with average children ; that ultra-violet-ray treatment gives good results not only in children suffering from specified diseases but generally in children who are under-par in general health ; that the prevention of ailments in the pre-school children is related to pre- and post-natal conditions.

Investigation into the "Illumination of Schools" showed insufficient and improper lighting of class-rooms in several schools, more artificial lighting being required to bring the class-rooms up to standard lighting on dark days.

The investigation of Eye Defects and School conditions showed a marked contrast between the town and rural schools in favour of the country schools ; that more hygiene instruction of children is advisable ; that defective vision is found more frequently in children who have defects of the throat and nose ; that height and weight averages of Middleton children compare favourably with the All-British and American Averages ; that physical defects are in excess in children who are under-nourished, deficient sleep and low family income being major factors in weedy, under-nourished children.

In the 1935 Nutrition Report, sub-nutrition was found to be highest in the Leaver group and lowest in the Entrant group. Recommendations were made (*vide* p. 194, Annual Report, 1936) ; that the incidence of Rheumatism in children increases with age and these children are more prone to infectious diseases, decayed teeth and nose and throat defects. Dampness in homes was found in 52 per cent. of the cases.

That the health of children is related to housing conditions—poor nutrition. Nose and throat defects were found to be highest in overcrowded houses.

Practical steps were applied to deal with many of the findings brought to light ; thus Clinic practice gives many opportunities for inquiry and investigation of special problems presenting themselves in school medical work.

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